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| **Teffont Parish Council**  **Parish Clerk: Madeline Honeybourne**  01722 716425 / 07840 819748  [teffontpc@outlook.com](mailto:teffontpc@outlook.com%20) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Teffont Village Hall **7th March 2023 at 18:00** | |
|  | **MEETING CONVENED: 18:00** |
|  | **Those present:**  Parish Councillors: E. Worth (Chair). J.Aspden. R. Blamey. T. Deane. S.O’Donnell  Also in attendance: Councillor Wayman. M. Honeybourne (Parish Clerk). 1 member of the Public. |
|  | **Questions and Statements.**  The Chair invited questions and statements from the public.  Mr Jon Bladen wished to make a general statement to remind the Parish Council and the Clerk that he was open to any conversations, at any time, on any matter.  Mr Bladen requested information on Agenda item 23.03.16. He would like to know when a housing need analysis was undertaken?  The Chair acknowledged the question from Mr Bladen. |
|  | **Report from Wiltshire Councillor.**  Councillor Wayman arrived shortly after the meeting had commenced.  Councillor Wayman reported a 4.99% increase was to be levied on the Council Tax charge for 23/24 by Wiltshire Council. This levy includes a 2% increase for social housing needs.  A £20 charge will now be made for van and trailer permits at recycling centres and garden waste collections will be increased by £6 to £66 per annum.  Recycling Waste collections will be monitored for incorrect items and a warning system installed. Stickers will be placed on the bins. Amber for a first offence and red for repeat offenders. This may result in waste being uncollected for residents.  The Area board meeting will be held on the 15th March. A presentation will be given on the Highways Capital budget, which is the main budget for resurfacing works. Councillor Wayman challenged the budget for this year at the meeting of Wiltshire council, as the budget for this year remains the same. Councillor Wayman stated costs of materials had risen significantly with additional repairs needed due to the poor weather. Councillor Wayman stated there is a rumour that the Department for Transport is going to reduce the budget by 20%. Councillor Wayman is concerned the impact this will have on road repairs. Councillor Wayman asked for the PC to forward details of any significant road repairs in the area.  Councillor Wayman asked if the PC needed any equipment to assist in the annual litter pick.  Councillor Wayman stated the current bus scheme for £2 fares has been extended until the 30th June 2023.  Councillor Deane asked Councillor Wayman if she knew when the housing needs analysis was carried out? Councillor Wayman did not know but offered to find out.  Councillor Deane asked Councillor Wayman if the Wiltshire Council Pension fund had been discussed during the recent Wiltshire Council meeting to discuss the finances for 23/24? Councillor Wayman replied, ‘no’. Councillor Deane stated that some years ago the WC Pension fund reserves sat at 60% and, therefore, a levy was attached to the WC Council tax to bring the Pension fund reserves back up to 130%. Councillor Deane stated he believes the WC Pension fund reserve is currently at the target level of 130% and, therefore, the levy could be removed. Councillor Deane further stated that should the WC Pension fund fail, and because Wiltshire Council employees have guaranteed pensions, in this instance, Wiltshire residents would have a levy put on their Council taxes to cover the cost of the pensions. Wiltshire Council therefore, has access to an additional £300 million. Councillor Deane asked Councillor Wayman why Wiltshire Council keeps increasing Council Tax rather than using the surplus funds in the Pension fund?  The Chair stated that Councillor Deane raised an interesting question and he should write to the head of the Pension fund for more information. |
| **MEETING MINUTES** | |
| 23.03.01 | **Resolution to receive apologies for absence.**  Councillor Graham. (Ill health)) Councillor Johnson. (Holiday)  **Proposed: EW Seconded: JA Carried: Unanimously**  **Resolved: Parish Council resolved to accept Councillor Grahams and Councillor Johnsons absence from the meeting.** |
| 23.03.02 | **Declarations of Interest/ Dispensations**   1. Declarations: Councillor Blamey declared an interest in agenda item 22.03.44 2. Dispensations: None required   Councillor O’Donnell informed the Chair that agenda item 2023.03.04 was a neighbour but that she was not a Consultee on the application.  The Chair noted the statement but replied a declaration of interest was not necessary for this matter. |
| 23.03.03 | **Resolution of Minutes of 10.01.23 and 31.01.23**  The Chair asked the Councillors to resolve to verify the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meetings held.  **Proposed: TD Seconded: RB Carried: Unanimously**  **Resolved: Parish Council resolved to accept the minutes of the meetings held 10.01.23 and 31.01.23 as a true and accurate precis of the meeting.** |
| 23.03.04 | **Planning Matters:**  Application number PL/2023/01476. Pine Grove House, Teffont Magna  There were no supporters of the application in attendance.  The Parish Council discussed the application and had no objection to the improvements to the dwelling but would like to place a condition that the splay of the driveway should be widened to improve highway safety onto the B3089  **Proposed: TD Seconded: JA Carried: Unanimously**  **Resolved: Teffont Parish Council resolved to submit comments to Wiltshire Council for planning application PL/2023/01476 with no objections but with conditions to widen the splay of the access to improve highway safety onto the B3089.** |
| 23.03.04a | **Other Planning Matters.**  The Clerk informed the Council of a tree works application PL/2023/01152 Reads Cottage. Teffont Magna  The Village tree officer, had seen the proposed works and agreed them. |
| 23.03.05 | **Finance Reports/ Current position.**  The Clerk has reconciled all financial transactions made, against the bank statements to 28.02.2023.  The Clerk has received payments from the TVHC and the PCC for grounds maintenance.  **Proposed: EW Seconded: SO Carried: Unanimously**  **Resolved: Parish Council resolved to accept the financial statement as true and accurate to 28.02.223** |
| 23.03.06 | **Code of Conduct.**  The Chair stated the Code of Conduct had been reviewed by all Councillors and will be signed at the Annual Parish Council meeting. No further discussion is needed at this time. |
| 23.03.07 | **Parish Council Meeting Dates.**  The Clerk proposed the following meeting dates for the Parish Council.   * 4th April 2023. (Financial Sign Off.) * 18th April 2023(Annual Community Gathering) * 25th April 2023 (Dark Skies Presentation) * 16th May 2023. (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council) * 27th June 2023 * 8th August 2023 * 19th September 2023 * 12th December 2023 * 23rd January 2024 * 5th March 2024   **Resolved:The Councillors agreed the proposed dates and resolved to keep meeting times at 18:00 – 20:00**  **Proposed: EW Seconded: RB Carried: Unanimously** |
| 23.03.08 | **Annual Community Gathering and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council**  The Parish Council agreed the meeting dates for the two events in agenda item 23.03.07  The Parish Council agreed to maintain the format of the Annual Community Gathering an agreed a budget of £150.00 to supply drinks and snacks for the occasion  **Proposed: RB Seconded: JA Carried: Unanimously**  **Resolved: The Parish Council resolved a budget of £150.00 for the Annual Community Gathering.** |
| 23.03.09 | **Highways Subcommittee update.**  Councillor Blamey informed the Council the traffic survey requested from Wiltshire Council for the B3089 had been completed and Wiltshire Council are awaiting the report. Councillor Blamey stated the survey was completed using observational methods and did not involve the use of strips across the road.  The report is expected next week. |
| 23.03.10 | **Dark Skies.**  The Clerk informed the Council of a presentation in the Village Hall on the 25th April 2023. At 19:30. The presentation is by Steve Tonkin from the Cranborne Chase Drak skies and will provide information on how to protect our international dark skies status. The presentation will be approximately 40 minutes with time for questions and answers at the end.  The Clerk proposed to send the Information out on ‘Info’ and it was agreed for the Clerk to print posters for distribution to local households.  **Proposed: EW Seconded: JA Carried: Unanimously**  **Resolved: Council authorised the Clerk to pay the cost of printing posters for the event and arranging for distribution to local households.** |
| 23.03.11 | **Spring Clean**  Council agreed for Councillor Blamey and Councillor Deane to organise the Village Spring Clean. Councillor Deane will check the equipment he has available to support the spring clean.  Councillors agreed to supply coffee and buns to the litter pickers once permission has been sought from the Village Hall Committee. The TVHC will be paid for the coffee and buns.  Council agreed to set the date for the Spring Clean for the 25th March 2023 at 10:30. Litter pickers will meet at the village hall.  **Proposed: EW Seconded: JA Carried: Unanimously**  **Resolved: Council agreed to pay the costs of refreshments for the litter pickers.** |
| 23.03.12 | **Parish Steward.**  Councillor Worth informed the Council she had recently spoken to the Parish Steward. The Parish Steward confirmed he is still repairing potholes but has cleaned the grips in the village and unblocked some drains. He has also trimmed a hedge that was impeding the pavement.  Wiltshire Council have changed the contractors for the Parish Steward from Ringway to a company called Milestone. |
| 23.03.13 | **Defibrillators.**  The Chair informed Council the two village defibrillators are due for new batteries and pads. Estimated costs are £180.00 for both defibrillators. Replacement of the batteries and pads is not due immediately and Council agreed to ascertain lead times for the replacement parts.  **Proposed: JA Seconded: SO Carried: Unanimously**  **Resolved: Council agreed to pay the estimated costs of £180 for replacement pads and batteries for the two defibrillators in the village** |
| 23.03.14 | **Water Pipe repair.**  Council agreed for the Clerk to ask the TVHC if the water pipe repair from the village hall to the stream has been completed. The Clerk informed the Council some residents have questioned the appearance of the water pipe and therefore will ask the TVHC for an update.  **Proposed: TD Seconded: RB Carried: Unanimously**  **Resolved: Council agreed for the Clerk to ask the TVHC for an update on the repairs to the water pipe from the Village hall to the stream.** |
| 23.03.15 | **Wessex Water**  The Clerk will forward the latest report from Ian Colley to all Councillors. The Chair requested Councillor Deane and Councillor O’Donnell review the original slides from Ian Colley. Councillor Deane and Councillor O’Donnell will check the information and formulate further questions for Ian Colley to enable a better understanding of the impact of climate change on water levels in the stream.  **Proposed: EW Seconded: TD Carried; Unanimously**  **Resolved: Council resolved for Councillor O’Donnell and Councillor Deane to review the presentation slides from Ian Colley at Wessex Water to better understand the impact of climate change on the water levels in the stream.** |
| 23.03.16 | **Affordable Housing for Teffont.**  Council considered the case for affordable housing within Teffont. There were concerns of the lack of infrastructure in Teffont to support young families and the elderly. Council considered how great the need for affordable housing in Teffont is and how such a project would be funded. Council agreed to review this matter and investigate further.  Council agreeed to conduct further enquiries into affordable housing.  **Proposed: EW Seconded: SO Carried: Unanimously** |
| 23.03.17 | **REPORTS – no resolutions required.**  **Chairs Report:**  The Chair wished to formally thank Mick Audus for his work to update the village website with new software.  The Chair wished to thank Jackie Edwards for reporting on the footpaths in the village.  The Chair stated she had received no confirmation of a new First aid kit for the village hall.  The Chair asked the Clerk if quotes had been received from Dave Foy. The Clerk has not received any quotes.  The Chair has received information via email, of concerns that the old nuclear bunker at Chilmark, is being used as a storage facility. The Chair will email Fowler Fortescue for clarity. The Chair wished to reaffirm the units at Chilmark will be re let following the withdrawal of EHD from the site. Fowler Fortescue will carefully vet new tenants.  Councillor Worth stated she will not stand for re election as Chair at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. |
| 23.03.18 | **Clerks Report:**  The Clerk thanked the Councillors for her Christmas gift and stated her appreciation for their kindness.  The Clerk informed the Council she had received information of buildings being erected on the caravan site at Teffont Woodland. The Clerk has informed Mark Williams, the enforcement officer, at Wiltshire planning department. The complainant was asked to contact the enforcement officer directly for the matter to be investigated. |
| 23.03.19 | **Items for the next Agenda.**   * **VDS update** * **Traffic survey update** * **Works for the Parish Steward** * **End of Year Financial reconciliation** |
|  | **Meeting Closed: 19:42** |
|  | **Date of next meeting:** **Parish Council Meeting at Teffont Village Hall at 18:00 on 4th April 2023**  Note: The Village Hall is open for 30 minutes prior to the start of any public meeting for questions from any resident. |